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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/784,223	02/24/2004	Shinji Uchida	SHO-0063	1577
23353	7590	04/28/2005	EXAMINER	
RADER FISHMAN & GRAUER PLLC LION BUILDING 1233 20TH STREET N.W., SUITE 501 WASHINGTON, DC 20036			NASRI, JAVAID H	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2839	

DATE MAILED: 04/28/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

HA

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/784,223	UCHIDA, SHINJI	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Javaid Nasri	2839	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-11 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-11 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 25 February 2003 is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☒ objected to by the Examiner.
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☒ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____. |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>7/13/04</u> . | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: ____. |

DETAILED ACTION

Oath/Declaration

1. The oath or declaration is defective. A new oath or declaration in compliance with 37 CFR 1.67(a) identifying this application by application number and filing date is required. See MPEP §§ 602.01 and 602.02.

The oath or declaration is defective because:

The specification to which the oath or declaration is directed has not been adequately identified. See MPEP § 602.

Claim Objections

2. Claims 1-11 are objected to because of the following informalities:

a) The claims are generally narrative and unclear, failing to conform to current U.S. practice. They appear to be a literal translation into English from a foreign document and are replete with grammatical and idiomatic errors.

b) In claim 7, line 2, “the shell” lacks antecedent bases.

Appropriate correction is required.

Drawings

3. The drawings are objected to under 37 CFR 1.83(a). The drawings must show every feature of the invention specified in the claims. Therefore, the

a) The shutter can move back and forth, per claim 8,

b) Cradle, per claim 9,

c) Limitation of claim 10,

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Must be shown or the feature(s) canceled from the claim(s). No new matter should be entered.

Corrected drawing sheets in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121(d) are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. Any amended replacement drawing sheet should include all of the figures appearing on the immediate prior version of the sheet, even if only one figure is being amended. The figure or figure number of an amended drawing should not be labeled as "amended." If a drawing figure is to be canceled, the appropriate figure must be removed from the replacement sheet, and where necessary, the remaining figures must be renumbered and appropriate changes made to the brief description of the several views of the drawings for consistency. Additional replacement sheets may be necessary to show the renumbering of the remaining figures. Each drawing sheet submitted after the filing date of an application must be labeled in the top margin as either "Replacement Sheet" or "New Sheet" pursuant to 37 CFR 1.121(d). If the changes are not accepted by the examiner, the applicant will be notified and informed of any required corrective action in the next Office action. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

4. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

5. Claims 1-11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Yu et al (2004/0132325) in view of Rundle (3,673,545).

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Yu et al discloses, **for claim 1**, an insulative plug housing (20) having a frame part and a header part which has a mounting board and is formed integrally with frame part and inserted the frame part; and a shutter (12) which covers the male contacts when the header part is removed from the mating receptacle and is housed in the frame part by being pushed by the mating receptacle so as to expose the male contacts when the header part is inserted into the mating receptacle (see Para [0026], **for claim 2**, an elastic member (16) for pushing out the shutter to cover the male contacts when the header part is removed from the mating receptacle, **for claim 6**, a shell (14) for covering the frame part; and pairs of soldering tabs arranged edges of the shell to be fixed on the printed-circuit board, **for claim 7**, the shell is formed of a metal thin plate, covers the frame part and has protruding pieces (22) to cover a part of the header part, **for claim 8**, the shutter has a first shutter wall and a second shutter wall which are opposed to each other with the male contacts disposed therebetween; each of the first shutter wall and the second shutter wall has a pair of restricting frames on both flanks thereof; restricting frames has a groove, each of the surfaces of the mounting board for mounting the male contacts is provided with a pair of rails edges of the surface, and on opposite the rail is engaged with the groove in such a manner where the shutter can move back and forth, **for claim 9**, being installed in a cradle via the printed-circuit board (see abstract), **for claim 10**, being installed in a cable via the printed-circuit board, **for claim 11**, a receptacle capable of being connected with the electric plug

However, Yu et al does not disclose:

- a) For claim 1, the header part to be protruded from the into a mating receptacle, male contacts of flexible leaf flexible top part, the springs each having male contacts arrayed in parallel on both surfaces of the mounting

board for mounting the male contacts, and a pair of the flexible top parts of the male contacts opposed to each other with the mounting board disposed there between are raised towards opposite directions each other. Rundle discloses a header part (53) to be protruded from the into a mating receptacle, male contacts of flexible leaf flexible top part, the springs each having male contacts arrayed in parallel on both surfaces of the mounting board for mounting the male contacts, and a pair of the flexible top parts of the male contacts opposed to each other with the mounting board disposed there between are raised towards opposite directions each other (see figure 3), therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art, at the time of the invention for Yu et al to have the header part to be protruded from the into a mating receptacle, male contacts of flexible leaf flexible top part, the springs each having male contacts arrayed in parallel on both surfaces of the mounting board for mounting the male contacts, and a pair of the flexible top parts of the male contacts opposed to each other with the mounting board disposed there between are raised towards opposite directions each other in view of Rundle to have better electrical connection with the mating part.

- b) for claims 3 and 4, a distance between the flexible top parts opposed to each other with the mounting board disposed there between is slightly larger than a width of the top board to make the male contacts press female contacts of the mating receptacle. Rundle discloses a distance

between the flexible top parts opposed to each other with the mounting board disposed there between is slightly larger than a width of the top board to make the male contacts press female contacts of the mating receptacle (see figures 7-10), therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art, at the time of the invention for Yu et al to have a distance between the flexible top parts opposed to each other with the mounting board disposed there between is slightly larger than a width of the top board to make the male contacts press female contacts of the mating receptacle in view of Rundle to have better electrical connections.

- c) for claim 5, legs of the male contacts opposed to each other with the mating board disposed therebetween extend from the header part towards opposite directions to each other to be fixed on a printed-circuit board. Official notice is taken that contacts towards opposite directions to each other to be fixed on a printed-circuit board is well known in the art, therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art, at the time of the invention for Yu et al to have contacts towards opposite directions to each other to be fixed on a printed-circuit board for solder connections.


Contact

6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Javaid Nasri whose telephone number is 571 272 2095. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday to Friday.

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If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Tulsidas C. Patel can be reached on 571 272 2800 ext 39. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).


Javaid Nasri
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2839

JN

Jhn

April 25, 2005